

## ABSTRACT

A meta information schema that is input through a meta information schema input portion 201 is stored to a meta information schema storing portion 202. On the other hand, meta information is supplied to a meta information input portion 203. The meta information schema is also supplied to the meta information input portion 203. The meta information input portion 203 converts the meta information corresponding to the meta information schema structure and supplies the converted information to a meta information storing portion 205. A meta information schema - meta information encoding portion 204 converts the meta information schema and the meta information supplied from the meta information schema storing portion 202 and the meta information storing portion 205 into information corresponding to a predetermined transmission format. A transmitting portion 206 multiplexes an output of the meta information schema - meta information encoding portion 204 and contents data stored in the contents data storing portion 207 and generates a transmission signal.